Welcome to the School of Religion

An Orientation Guide

2020 - 21
IN OUTLINE

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HOW TO FIND US...

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www.tcd.ie/religion/currentstudents
Who's Who?

Staff

The School of Religion hosts over 30 academic staff, administrative staff, adjunct lecturers and research fellows.

You've met some of your programme today.

To see the whole School, visit: https://www.tcd.ie/religion/people/
Your Programme of Study

The Honors BA in Religion provides students with a broad introduction to the study of religion and discrete religious traditions in their multiple dimensions and manifestations. The programme is structured to facilitate both a broad-based study of religion and theology, plus, two discrete specialisations (exit pathways), one in the study of religion, the other in Christian theology. The exit pathways are created by choosing to concentrate on particular subjects by choosing certain modules from amongst the options in Years 2, 3 and 4. Both the Single Honors and Joint Honors programmes support the attainment of the Graduate Attributes.
To Act Responsibly

A Trinity Graduate
- Acts on the basis of knowledge and understanding
- Is self-motivated and able to take responsibility
- Knows how to deal with ambiguity
- Is an effective participant in teams
- Has a global perspective
- Is ethically aware

To Think Independently

A Trinity Graduate
- Has a deep knowledge of an academic discipline
- Can do independent research
- Thinks creatively
- Thinks critically
- Appreciates knowledge beyond their chosen field
- Analyses and synthesises evidence

To Develop Continuously

A Trinity Graduate
- Has a passion to continue learning
- Builds and maintains career readiness
- Commits to personal development through reflection
- Has the confidence to take measured risks
- Is capable of adapting to change

To Communicate Effectively

A Trinity Graduate
- Can present work through all media
- Is expert in the communication tools of a discipline
- Connects with people
- Listens, persuades and collaborates
- Has digital skills
- Has language skills
DEGREE: TIMELINE
The Four Years

Junior Fresh
Senior Fresh
Junior Sophister
Senior Sophister
Graduate!
In each year of study students must complete 60 ECTS, (60 credits).

What’s ECTS?

European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) which is an academic credit system based on the estimated student workload required to achieve the objectives of a module or programme of study. It is designed to enable academic recognition for periods of study, to facilitate student mobility and credit accumulation and transfer. The ECTS is the recommended credit system for higher education in Ireland and across the European Higher Education Area.

The European norm for full-time study over one academic year is 60 credits. 1 credit represents 20-25 hours estimated student input, so a 10-credit module will be designed to require 200-250 hours of student input including class contact time, assessments and examinations.
In each year of study students must complete 60 ECTS, (60 credits). There are two pathways for our degrees.

I. Single Honors (SH) Moderatorship in Religion;
II. Joint Honors (JH) in Religion combined with another Arts Humanities Subject.

For Single Honors students the 60 ECTS are made up of modules in Religion as well as Approved and Trinity Elective Modules. Through choosing a Single Honors subject course, you will focus on one subject throughout your time in College. You will have the option to graduate with one of two awards. A Single Honors Award will allow you to specialise in your subject. You may also take up a minor as a new subject from 2nd year and continue in both subjects to achieve a Major with Minor award.
II. Joint Honors (JH) in Religion combined with another Arts Humanities Subject.

For Joint Honors students the 60 ECTS are made up from modules in Religion and your other subject, plus Approved and Trinity Elective Modules. Joint Honors entry courses provide you with an opportunity to study two subjects to obtain an award in both subjects at graduation. You may also choose to concentrate more of your efforts on one of the subjects, while continuing to study the second subject to achieve a Major with Minor award or you can specialise in just one of your subjects to obtain a Single Honors Award. See Table below:
Common Architecture

FRESHMAN YEARS: 120 ECTS

ENTRY ROUTE:

- JF
  - S1 60 ECTS
- SF
  - S1 40 ECTS
  - S2/AM/TE 20 ECTS

POSSIBLE PATHWAYS

S1 20 ECTS
S2 20 ECTS
S3/AM/TE 20 ECTS

SOPHISTER YEARS: 120 ECTS

- JS
  - S1 90 ECTS @ LEVELS 3/4
  - S2/AM/TE 10 ECTS
  - CAPSTONE 20 ECTS
- SS
  - CAPSTONE 20 ECTS

AWARD:

- SINGLE HONORS
- MAJOR WITH MINOR

KEY - S1: SUBJECT 1, S2: SUBJECT 2, ETC. | AM: APPROVED MODULES | TE: TRINITY ELECTIVES | JF: JUNIOR FRESHMAN, SF: SENIOR FRESHMAN, JS: JUNIOR SOPHISTER, SS: SENIOR SOPHISTER.
Common Architecture

FRESHMAN YEARS: 120 ECTS
ENTRY ROUTE:

JF

Joint Honors

S1
30 ECTS

S2
30 ECTS

SF

S1
40 ECTS
&
OM/TE
20 ECTS

S1
40 ECTS
&
S2
20 ECTS

S1
20 ECTS
&
S2
20 ECTS
&
OM/TE
20 ECTS

DEGREE

SINGLE HONORS DEGREE

MAJOR WITH MINOR DEGREE

JOINT HONORS DEGREE

KEY: S1 - Subject 1 | S2 - Subject 2 | OM - Open Modules | TE - Trinity Electives | JF - Junior Freshman | SF - Senior Freshman
What's in your First year?

Single Honors students in Religion take all 12 of the following 5 credit modules:

1. Introducing the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible
2. Introducing the New Testament
3. Introducing Theology: Key Questions
4. Introducing Theology: Key Texts and Methods
5. Ethics Matters: Global Questions, Ethical Responses
6. Becoming Moral: Ethical Reasoning in Theological Perspective
7. Approaches to the Study of Religions
8. Introducing Islam
9. Dharmic Religions
10. Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean
11. Jewish Thought and Practice
12. Introduction to Philosophy
What's in your First year?

Junior Fresh (Year 1) Joint Honors Religion

Joint Honors students in Religion take these 6 modules, each bearing 5 credits:
1. Introducing the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible
2. Introducing the New Testament
3. Introducing Theology: Key Texts and Methods
4. Ethics Matters: Global Questions, Ethical Responses
5. Approaches to the Study of Religions
6. Introducing Islam
What's in your First year?

Junior Fresh (Year 1) Joint Honors Religion

Joint Honors students in Religion take these 6 modules, each bearing 5 credits:
1. Introducing the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible
2. Introducing the New Testament
3. Introducing Theology: Key Texts and Methods
4. Ethics Matters: Global Questions, Ethical Responses
5. Approaches to the Study of Religions
6. Introducing Islam
Academic Requirements

School of Religion modules combine continuous assessment with end of semester examinations. Continuous assessment takes many forms, and lecture/ seminar attendance is mandatory. Your Course Handbook explains the attendance policy, but it's up to you to communicate with your lecturer. Examinations take place at the end of each Semester.
Plagiarism

Whenever you draw on another person's work, you are required to acknowledge your source. Failure to do so exposes you to the accusation of passing off someone else's work as your own. This is called 'plagiarism'. The University Calendar states that this is "a major offence, and subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University". As your essays count towards your final mark, plagiarism in your essays is considered the equivalent of cheating in an examination, a major offence for which you may be expelled. See the handbook for help on referencing and plagiarism policies.
Deadlines

Essays are to be submitted electronically and in hard copy, according to the lecturer’s requirements, by the date and time stated on the essay assignment. The essay should include detailed references (either in-text, or endnotes, or footnotes) and a bibliography laid out in alphabetical order. Your pages should be A4 size, numbered, and your typing double-spaced. Correct spelling (consistently either English or American), grammar and clear presentation are essential.

All hard copy essays must be submitted to the School Undergraduate Office (Room G8) by noon on the specified date. Every essay must include the appropriate cover-sheet attached and delivered into the School Undergraduate Office. The cover-sheet includes a Declaration concerning plagiarism, so all cover-sheets must be signed. Copies of cover-sheets can be downloaded on the Departmental webpage.
Deadlines

If you hand your essay in after the due date without an extension, it will still be accepted up to one week late with a loss of 10% of whatever mark is awarded. It will not be accepted after the lapse of one week. If you require an extension, contact your college tutor who will need to liaise with your head of year. Remember that if you do not hand in your essays you also risk being returned as non-satisfactory for courses.
Study Abroad

Students can apply for the international exchanges that Trinity offers on a competitive basis to spend their JS year at a University in Canada, the US, Australia or Asia. Students undertaking an approved exchange are normally expected to achieve a minimum grade of second class (first division) in the Senior Fresh annual examination for a Junior Sophister exchange. Students who are required to take supplemental assessments may participate in the exchange at the discretion of the School. Under this scheme undergraduate students have the opportunity to spend their Junior Sophister Year (or part of it) studying at one of two European universities outside Ireland—Glasgow and Leuven—with financial support from European funds. Students who expect to finish their Senior Fresh year with a II.1 mark are encouraged to apply. The Erasmus and international exchanges coordinator for out-going students is Professor Ben Wold, woldb@tcd.ie.